least one member selected from light silicic anhydride, talc, stearic acid, magnesium stearate and calcium stearate.

5. (Amended) The surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient according to claim 1, wherein light silicic anhydride is used as the surface modifying base material.

7. (Amended) The surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient according to claim 1, wherein the pharmacologically active ingredient added with a diluent selected from lactose, erythritol, trehalose, anhydrous calcium hydrogenphosphate and crystalline cellulose has been surface-modified with the surface modifying base material.

8. (Amended) The surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient according to claim 1, wherein the flowability is at most 42° in terms of an angle of repose.

9. (Amended) The surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient according to claim 1, which is subjected to dry coating after adding at least one member selected from finely divided titanium oxide, talc, erythritol and trehalose to the powder for surface modification before or after the surface modification.

10. (Amended) A method of producing the surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient and having a flowability enabling direct tabletting according to claim 1, which comprises blending, for surface modification, a

powder for surface modification comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient and optionally further containing a diluent with a surface modifying base material.

11. (Amended) A fast disintegrating tablet comprising the pharmacologically active ingredient-comprising surface-modified powder according to claim 1, having blended with a disintegrant and directly tableted.

14. (Amended) A method of producing the fast disintegrating tablet according to claim 11, which comprises blending, for surface modification, a powder for surface modification comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient and optionally further containing a diluent with a surface modifying base material, adding a disintegrant to the blend and then subjecting the mixture to direct tabletting.

15. (Amended) Use of the surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient for producing a tablet by directly tabletting the surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient according to claim 1, optionally after blending the powder with an additive.

17. (Amended) A method of producing a tablet preparation, which comprises subjecting the surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient according to claim 1, to direct tabletting, optionally after blending the powder with an additive.

See the attached Appendix for the changes made to effect the above claims.